

Municipal Sanitary Landfill Authority

1500 Harrison Avenue Kearny Town Hudson County

BLOCK: 285 LOT: 2

Community Relations Coordinator: Mindy Mumford (609) 777-1976

SITE DESCRIPTION/RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

This site, also known as the MSLA 1-D Landfill, is located in a wetlands area near the Passaic River and Exit 15W of the New Jersey Turnpike. The Municipal Sanitary Landfill Authority (MSLA) operated the landfill during the late 1970s and early 1980s. Records indicate that in addition to municipal waste, approximately 1.5 million gallons of waste oil were deposited there. Various industrial wastes were also reportedly disposed of in the landfill, including pharmaceuticals, sewage sludges, asphalt sludges and insecticides. NJDEP ordered the landfill to cease operations in 1982 because it reached maximum allowable height and MSLA had failed to maintain the leachate collection system. A soil cover was placed over the landfill at the time of closure but the site was never properly capped or maintained. Since disposal operations ceased, large volumes of leachate have routinely discharged from the landfill into the surrounding wetlands and the Passaic River. A private company installed a landfill gas recovery system at the site in 1989 to capture the methane gas being generated by the waste fill for use as an energy source. USEPA conducted a limited remedial investigation at the site in 1990 that revealed the soil, ground water, surface water and sediments at and near the landfill were contaminated with a variety of organic and inorganic compounds and metals. NJDEP's Remedial Response Element plans to implement closure actions at this site to prevent the release of methane from the waste fill and mitigate the impact of landfill leachate on the environment. NJDEP is conducting a Remedial Design for the following landfill closure measures: 1) installation of a subsurface containment wall and leachate collection system to prevent leachate-contaminated ground water from discharging to the surrounding areas; and 2) installation of a solid waste-type impermeable cap to prevent infiltration of precipitation and thereby minimize the generation of additional leachate. NJDEP expects to complete the Remedial Design for the landfill closure measures in 2003. NJDEP has also provided funding for the Kearny Municipal Utilities Authority to design a pump station and force main to convey leachate from the landfill to a sewage treatment plant for disposal.